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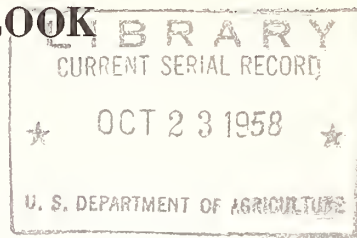
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UMATILLA RIVER, WALLA WALLA RIVER and WILLOW CREEK WATERSHEDS

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

as of

APRIL 1, 1956



U. S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE and OREGON AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

S U M M A R Y

For details
see page: _____

- 1 Water Supply Outlook: Good to ample water supplies for Walla Walla, Umatilla and Willow Creek watersheds are assured if normal snow-melt and runoff conditions prevail. Birch, Butter, Willow and Rhea Creeks have flowed most of the winter and will continue to furnish above average water supplies. Ground-water in the key well near Milton is only slightly below the average.
- 2 Streamflow Forecasts: Flow of the Walla Walla South Fork is forecast at 109 percent average for the April-September period. Likewise, the Umatilla at Pendleton will discharge 119 percent average and McKay Creek 108 percent average for the next six months.
- 2 Reservoir Storage: Cold Springs Reservoir is now filled to its capacity of 50,000 acre feet. McKay Reservoir, with 57,900 acre feet in storage, has been spilling to make room for inflow yet to come.
- 2 Soil Moisture: All soils in mountain watersheds are extremely wet and will cause snow-melt or rain-water to enter the streams rapidly.
- 3 Snow-Cover: Water content of the snow averages above normal as follows: On the Walla Walla, 113 percent; on Umatilla, 126 percent; on Willow Creek, 144 percent.
- 3 Precipitation: Fall and winter precipitation has been heavy, averaging one-third to one-half above normal.

Current Streamflow: Fall and winter flow (October through March) of the Umatilla River has been about one-half again above normal.



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK
For April-September 1956^a

Source of Water	Acreage Irrigated	Outlook
<u>Walla Walla Basin</u>		
Mill Creek		Supplies water for City of Walla Walla. Flow will be ample and will be about 37,000 acre feet in the next six months.
North Fork Walla Walla	124	Ample water for all usual irrigation.
South Fork Walla Walla	348	Ample water for all usual irrigation.
Main Walla Walla	1,344	Ample water for all usual irrigation.
Little Walla Walla	13,700	Ample water for all rights including Hudson Bay and Plainview Ditches.
Mud Creek	373	Ample water for all usual irrigation.
Dry Creek	1,207	Ample water for all usual irrigation.
Pine Creek	759	Ample water for all usual irrigation.
Dugger Creek	595	Ample water for all usual irrigation.
Johnson Creek	110	Ample water for all usual irrigation.
<u>Umatilla Basin</u>		
Main Umatilla	12,074	Adequate water for all usual irrigation. Late season flow will be better sustained than average unless drought sets in.
Umatilla and Cold Springs	6,000	Ample water for all usual irrigation.
Umatilla and McKay Res.	9,693	Ample water for all usual irrigation.
McKay Creek	280	Adequate water for all usual irrigation.
Birch Creek	1,000	Adequate water for all usual irrigation.
Butter Creek	6,000	Adequate water for all usual irrigation.
<u>Willow Creek Basin</u>		
Willow and Rhea Creeks	11,780	Adequate water for all usual irrigation. Excellent snow-cover on head of watershed

a - Assuming normal meteorological conditions during the
April - September period.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS^a
As of April 1, 1956

No.	Name	Gaging Station	Seasonal Streamflow in 1000 a. f.			1956 as % of 15- yr. Avg.
			Forecast 1956	Forecast Period	15 yr. Avg. 1938-52	
214	Walla Walla So. Fk. nr. Milton		77.0	Apr.-Sept.	70.5	109
214	Walla Walla So. Fk. nr. Milton		63.0	Apr.-July	57.8	109
2236	Umatilla R., nr. Gibbon		102.0	Apr.-Sept.	86.8	118
223	Umatilla R., at Pendleton		200.0	Apr.-Sept.	167.4	119
223	Umatilla R., at Pendleton		185.0	Apr.-July	154.5	120
2213	McKay Cr., nr. Pilot Rock		30.0	Apr.-Sept.	27.8	108
2213	McKay Cr., nr. Pilot Rock		29.0	Apr.-July	27.6	105

RESERVOIR STORAGE

Reservoir	Usable Capacity 1000 a.f.	Thousand a.f. in storage about April 1, 1956				1956 as % of 15 Yr. Avg.
		1956	1955	1954	15 Yr. Avg. 1938-52	
McKay	74.0	57.9	20.2	43.9	58.9	98
Cold Springs	50.0	49.4	42.3	50.0	48.2	102
Total (2 Reservoirs)	124.0	107.3	62.5	93.9	107.1	100

SOIL MOISTURE

Soils In:	Fall Status	Current status as of April 1, 1956
Valleys (irrigated)	((
	((
	((
	((
Mountains	((
	((
	((

(At summer's end, last year, all mountain and valley
(soils were extremely dry. An unusual combination of
(heavy precipitation and early winter snow-melt has
(completely "recharged" all watersheds so that all
(soils are now extremely wet.
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(

PRECIPITATION DATA
1955-56

[illegible]

